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Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
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O 211715Z SEP 75 ZFF-1
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5736

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 AMMAN 6413

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E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: MASS,JO, US
SUBJECT: HAWK MISSILES: DELIVERY SCHEDULE ISSUE

RER: AMMAN 6395

1. SUMMARY: IF JORDANIAN HAWK SALE SURVIVES CURRENT CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION, GIVEN KING HUSSEIN'S DESIRE TO MOVE IMMEDIATELY TO LETTER OF OFFER, WE FACE THE QUESTIONOF WHAT TO DO ABOUT DELIVERY SCHEDULES FOR HAWK. WE BELIEVE THAT FOR LETTER OF OFFER TO GO AHEAD TO START PRODUCTION PROCESS, IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO CHANGE DELIVERY DATES AS CURENTLY CONTEMPLATED IN PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO CONGRESS, BUT WITHIN THAT FRAME WORK WE MUST HAVA A CONSTRUCTIVE PROPOSAL TO OFFER TO HUSSEIN. SINCE HUSSEIN'S BASIS FOR PROCEEDING IS THAT TRAINED CREWS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE ROUGHLY CONCURRENTLY WITH HAWK BATTERY DELIVERIES, WE WILL NEED TO LOOK IN DETAIL WITH THE JORDANIANS AT THE TREMENDOUSLY COMPLICATED QUESTION OF AN OVERALL TRAINING PLAN. WE THEFORE SUGGEST THAT WE BE PREPARED TO PRESENT KING HUSSEIN CONCURENTLY WITH HE LETTER OF OFFER, A CLASSIFIED SIDE LETTER WHICH (A) INDICATES IN MAXIMUM ACCEPTABLE TERMS OUR CAPACITY TO BE FORTHCOMING(B) INTER ALIA RELATES TRAINING SCHEDULES TO DELIVERIES AND PROPOSES JOINT US JORDANIAN PREPARATIO OF AN OVERALL HAWK TRAIN INT PLANS AS ONE BASIS FOR FURHTER DISCUSSION(C) PRESERVES OUR COMMITEMENT TO CONGRESS AND TO OUR OWN
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PRODUCTION CAPACITIES IN TERMS WHICH ARE LEAST NEURALGIC

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FOR KING TO ACCEPT. END SUMMARY.

2. IF JORDANIAN AIR DEFENSE ISSUE GETS THROUGH CURRENT CONGRESSIONAL WAITING PERIOD, NEXT IMMEDIATE ISSUE WILL BE DELIVERY SCEDULE FOR HAWK MISSILES. PROBLEM REVOLVES AROUND FACT THAT GOJ HAS PUBLICLY INDICATED (REFTEL)THAT "DELIVERY DATES FOR HAWK MISSILES AS WRITTEN IN PRESIDENT FORD'S LETTER DO NOT MEET NEEDS OF JORDAN, WHICH STRONGLY DESIRES THEIR DELIVERY ONCE OUR ARMED FORCES COMPLETE THEIR TRAINING ON THEM AND ONCE THEY PROVE THAT THEY CAN HANDLE THESE WEAPONS WITHOUT GIVING ATTENTION TO ANY OTHER CONSIDERATIONS. THIS POSITION WAS TAKEN BY KING JUSSEIN PERSONAL URGING AND KING PERSONALLY REGARDS DELIVERY DATES AS A KEY ISSUE FOR BOTH INTERNAL MORALE AND INTER ARAB REASONS.

3. IN ASSESSING ISSUE, WE SEE FOLLOWING PERTINENT FACTORS.

THE CONGRESS-- WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO CONGRESS ON THE BASIS OF THE DELIVERY DATES INCLUDED IN THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER. WE ASSUME THIS OBLIGATION CAN BE ONLY MODIFIED AFTER CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH CONGRESS AND THAT PRACTICALLY SPEAKING, CONGRESSIONAL ACQUIESCENCE IN ALTERED DELIVERY DATES WOULD ONLY BE POSSIBLE AT SOME LATER DATE.

4. JORDAN-- WE HAVE KING'S REQUIREMENT FOR SOME SPEED-UP IN DELIVERIES. THE KING DOES NOT WISH TO APPEAR IN EYES OF OTHER ARABS AND OF HIS OWN ARMY AND PEOPLE TO BE ACQUIESCING TO PROLONGED DELAY IN DELIVERY AND THREFORE WILL PUT UP DETERMINED CAMPAIGN TO OBTAIN SOME FORWARD MOVEMENT IN THIS AREA. (DEPARTMENT IS AWARE THAT KING HAS HABIT OF PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT IN SUCH MILITARY SUPPLY DETAILS, WHICH HE TAKES EXTREMELY SEIOUSLY.)

5. SECOND FACTOR IS TRAINING AND LOGISTICS OF PRODUC-TION AND DELIVERY OF MISSILES. PRESIDENT LETTER

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SPECIFIES THAT :"INITIAL DELIVERY WILL CONSIST OF ONE BATTERY EACH IN OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER OF 1976. DELIVERIES OF THE NEXT THREE WILL BE MADE DURING THE PERIOD OF JANUARY-MARCH 1978. DELIVERIES OF THE REMAINING EIGHT BATTERIES WILL BEGIN APPROXIMATELY 30 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF HE JORDANIAN SIGNATURE OF THE LETTER OF OFFER AND WILL BE MADE OVER A PERIOD EXTENDING INTP 1979" WE DO NOT BELIEVE WE HAVE A PROBLEM WITH GOJ

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CONCERNING DELIVERY DATES ON INITIAL THREE BATTERIES.
ALL JAF TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR MANNING THOSE BATTERIES
WILL NOT BE COMPLETED UNTIL OCTOBER 1976(ASSUMING ENTRY
INTO NOVEMBER 1975-11-MONTH COURSE) KING WOULD
PROBABLY LIKE TO SPEED UP TRAINING SO AS TO RECEIVE
REMAINING ELEVEN BATTERIES AT SHORT AND REGULAR
INTERVALS AFTER RECEIVING INTIAL THREE BATTERIES.PRIME
MINISTER RIFAI HAS TOLD US INFORMALLY HIS OWN IDEAL DELIVERY
SCHEDULE IS ONE BATTERY PER MONTH. BEGINNING IN OCTOBER
1976(AND THEREFORE ENDING IN JANUARY 1978, ALTHOUGH HE
HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF TRAINING REQUIREMENTS) OR
ARMY ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY).

6. ON THE OTHER HAND CHIEF OF STAFF BIN SHAKER HAS
INDICATED INFORMALLY THAT HE HAS TAKEN AND WILL TAKE THE
POSITION THAT HE DOES NOT WANT TO HAVE ANY BETTERY
DELIVERED UNTIL JAF CREWS ARE TRAINED AND CAPABLE OF
PUTTING IT INTO OPERATION.

7. IN FACT THERE MAY BE A BASIS FOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN
USG AND JORDANIAN POSITIONS(A) ASSUMING JORDANIANS
CONTINUE TO APPLY TRAINING READINESS CRITERION AND (B)
ASSUMING THAT WE CAN PRESENT CONVINCING CASE ON TRAINING
CONSTRAINTS TO KING AND JAF BASED ON MAXIMUM USG EFFORT
TO PROVIDE TRAINING AND TO GRANT HEAVY PRIORITY TO
JORDANIAN TRAINING NEEDS.WHILE KING WILL UNDOUBTEDLY
BE WILLING TO GRANT THE HIGHEST JORDANIAN PRIORITY TO
HAWK TRAINING JAF MAY WELL HAVE PROBLEMS PRODUCING
ENOUGH QUALIFIED TRAINING CANDIDATES, AT LEAST IN
LATER STAGES.

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5737

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 AMMAN 6413

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8. WE BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS
FOR US TO SHOW WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT SIGNIFICANT NUMBER
OF JORDANIANS IN TRAINI G PROGRAMS BEGINNING THIS FALL.
GESTURE WILL REASSURE KING WE ARE NOT USING TRAINING
SPACE LIMITATIONS AS AN EXCUSE FOR FOOTDRAGGING. WE
ASSUME THAT, WITH TIME, TRAINING CONSTRAINTS WILL
MODERATE SIGNIFICANTLY JAF CAPACITY TO ABSORD LATER
BATTERIES.

9. MAJOR CURRENT PROBLEM IS DELIVERY OF SECOND THREE
BATTERIES. WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD INDICATE TO KING WE
WILL MAKE MAJOR EFFORT TO REVIEW POSSIBILITY OF SPEEDING
UP THAT DELIVERY WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF OUR OWN SIGNIFICANT
CONSTRAINTS. AS TO PRODUCTION SCHEDULES, WE NOTE
THAT PRESIDENT'S LETTER HAS ALREADY ADVANCED DELICERY OF THESE
HAWKS BY THREE MONTHS (JANUARY-MARCH 1978) OVER THAT
PROPOSED IN WASHINGTON JOINT COMMISSION OF APRIL (30
MONTHS FROM ASSUMED OCTOBER 1, 1975 ACCEPTANCE OF LOA,
OR APRIL 1978).

10. SECONDLY, WE ASSUME SOME HAWK BATTERIES IN PRODUCTION
ARE FOR IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA. W NOTE THAT SHAH HAS
GIVEN KING HUSSEIN CONSIDERABLE MORAL BACKING IN TERMS
OF "ONEROUS CONDITIONS" ON HAWK SALE WE MIGHT THEREFORE
INVESTIGATE POSSIBLITY OF SEEING A SWITCH OF SOME IRAN
HAWKS TO JORDAN ON THE BASIS MUTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN
IRAN AND JORDAN TO DO SO. SIMILAR POSSIBILITY MIGHT
EXIST WITH REGARD TO SAUDI ARABIA IN ORDER TO PROVIDE
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BASIS FOR REVIEWING THIS MATTER INTERNALLY, EMBASSY BE-
LIEVES IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR DEPARTMENT AND DOD
OBTAIN INFO ON CURRENT HAWK PRODUCTION SCHEDULE INCLUDING
DATES OF IRANIAN/SAUDI HAWK PRODUCTION AS BACKGROUND FOR
WHAT WE ARE DOING HERE.

11. EMBASSY, IN THE LIGHT OF THE ABOVE FACTS AND ASSESS-
MENT, HAS REACHED THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS:
A. IN ORDER TO BEGIN WORK ON THE PRODUCTION OF
HAWK MISSILES FOR JORDAN, IDEALLY JORDAN SHOULD PROCEED
TO SIGN LETTER OF OFFER IMMEDIATELY;
B. IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE KING'S DESIRE FOR
FLEXIBILITY ON DELIVERY DATES, HE WILL REQUIRE SOME
WTITTEN ARRANGEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH LETTER OF OFFER
PROVIDING HIM WITH SOME ASSURANCE THAT WE WILL LOOK AT
THIS PROBLEM AS A MATTER OF HIGH PRIORITY AND INTEREST;
C. THE KING'S BASIS FOR PROCEEDING IS TO LINK
TRAINING WITH HAWK DELIVERIES. THE UNKNOWN INVOLVED

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IN TRAINING PLANS AT THIS POINT ARE ENORMOUS AND A
SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF JOINT WORK WILL BE REQUIRED BEFORE
WE HAVE CLEAR IDEA OF HOW TRAINING OF JORDANIANS
ACTUALLY RELATES TO PRESENT DELIVERY SCHEDULES.

12. THEREFORE WE PROPOSE FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S CONSIDERA-
TION PROCEEDING AS FOLLOWS:
A. PRESENTING CURRENT LETTER OF OFFER AND URGING
EARLIEST POSSIBLE SIGNATURE. LETTER OF OFFER WOULD
BE PRESENTED WITH CLASSIFIED SIDE LETTER WHICH WOULD
INDICATE TO THE KING, QUITE POSSIBLY IN TERMS WHICH HAVE
ALREADY BEEN INCLUDED IN MESSAGES FROM THE SECRETARY BUT
AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE, OUR DETERMINATION TO REVIEW
WITH THE JORDANIANS AND TO DO WHATEVER WE ARE CAPABLE OF
DOING ON FUTURE DELIVERY DATES.
B. PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH AS ONE BASIS FOR FURTHER
CONSIDERATION OF THE DELIVERY DATE QUESTION, THE JOINT
PREPARATION BY US AND JORDANIAN EXPERTS OF AN OVERALL
TRAINING PLAN CONNECTED WITH HAWK. THE PLAN WOULD IN-
VOLVE MAXIMUM USE OF TRAINING SPACES IN THE US ANDJORDAN
TO PREPARE JORDANIAN OPERATIONAL AND INSTRUCTOR PERSONNEL.
C. THE PLAN WOULD FORESEE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
LOCAL TRAINING FACILITIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WHICH
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COULD ALSO BE USED TO SUPPLEMENT US EFFORT. THE TRAIN-
ING PLAN WOULD BE BASIS FOR FUTURE TALKS WITH JORDAN
OF THEIR DELIVERY SCHEDULE PROBLEM. UNTIL WE KNOW WHAT
TRAINING CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE ON WHAT BASIS, IT IS NOT
POSSIBLE TO TALK ABOUT DELIVERY SCHEDULES IN THE TERMS
WHICH THE KING HAS PROPOSED.
D. LETTER WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE PHRASED TO INDICATE
THAT WE WOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE NECESSARY
CONGRESSIONAL AND US LOGISTICS IMPLICATIONS. THIS
WOULD BE A STATEMENT TO COVER THE RECORD FOR CONGRESS
AND TO PUT THE JORDANIANS ON NOTICE THAT MANUFACTURING
DATES, ETC. ARE ALSO CRITICAL ISSUES AS FAR AS WE ARE
CONCERNED.

12. IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, INCLUDING THE CURRENT
DELIVERY DATES IN THE LETTER OFFER WILL BE A TICKLISH
SITUATION. KING MAY WISH TO FINESSE THIS BY ONLY A
GENERAL STATEMENT IN THE LETTER OFFER. THAT GENERAL
STATEMENT MIGHT RELATE TO SIDE LETTER PROPOSED ABOVE IN
WHICH CURRENT DELIVERY SCHEJULE COULD BE ALSO INCORPORATED,
OR SCHEJULE MAY BE INCLUDED IN AN ADDITIONAL SIDE LETTER.
THESE TWO OPTIONS WOULD OBVIOUSLY HAVE TO BE EXAMINED CAREFULLY AND
WOULD BE PART OF OUR GENERAL NEGOTIATING APPROACH.

14. WHATEVER SIDE LETTERS ARE PREPARED, THEY WOULD HAVE

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TO BE SUCH AS COULD BE SHOWN TO THE CONGRESS TO CONTINUE
TO REASSURE THEM THAT WE ARE CJRRENTLY PROCEEDING ON THE ORIGINAL
BASIS CONTAINED IN THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

14. OBVIOUSLY THERE MAY BE OTHER APPROACHES TO THE
PROBLEM. WE ARE SUGGESTING THE ABOVE ONLY BECAUSE IN
THE SHORT TIME AVAILABLE WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE FULLY TO
DEVELOP SUITABLE ALTERNATIVES. IN THE LAST ANALYSIS
IT IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE THAT PRESENT DELIVERY DATES WITH VERY
MINOR CHANGES MAY COME CLOSE TO, IF NOT EXACTLY COINCIDE
WITH, TRAINING SCHEDULES.

16. REGARDING TIMING, WE BELIEVE QUICK RESPONSE WILL BE
REQUIRED FROM USG IMMEDIATELY FOLLWOKNG CONGRESSIONAL
APPROVAL OF HAWKS. WE THEREFORE REQUEST EXPEDITIOUS
RESPONSE TO OUR PROPOSAL, TO ACCOMPANY PRESENTATION
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OF LOA NEXT WEEK WHICH WE REQUESTED (43*TEL) BE FORWARDED
TO US BY SPECIAL DOD COURIER. WE ALSO REQUEST THAT DOD
BEGIN PRELIMINARY WORK ON LOOKING AT JORDANIAN TRAINING
PLAN AND ON SELECTION OF SMALL, HIGHLY QUALIFIED
TRAINING TEAM TO COME TO JORDAN IN VERY NEAR FUTURE.
(IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE SUCH A TEAM WILL BE NEEDED SHOULD
JORDANIANS WISH TO HAVE A MORE DETAILED DISCUSSION OF TRAINING
AVAILABILITIES PRIOR TO SIGNING LOA.)
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Draft Date: 21 SEP 1975
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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